

'Ciclo de Conferências CBA'

**17 de Janeiro, FCUL, Edifício C1, Piso 3.
Anfiteatro FFCUL, 11.00-13.00H**

Programme

11.00H: Change is a Constant - challenges for an uncertain future of systematic ichthyology in Africa

Prof. Paul Skelton (South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity, Grahamstown, South Africa)

An increasing tempo of change has characterized everything, including systematics over the past few decades. Thus shifting paradigms have impacted dramatically on the understanding of interrelationships and the classification of fishes in recent years. The advent of modern digital technologies and molecular science have boosted such fluxes way beyond the norm. Tensions between old and new orders flare up like fireworks in the sky. Using graphic examples from recent research, this talk focuses on the impacts such dynamic shifts and successive generations have had on the classification and taxonomy of some African fish lineages. The talk illuminates the current position and crisis facing freshwater ichthyology in Africa, and presents some key issues to be resolved in future.

11.45H: Paradigm shifts in fisheries moving to the ecosystem services concept

Prof. Ian Cowx (University of Hull, International Fisheries Institute, Hull, UK)

Various factors constrain the development and existence of inland fisheries, such as local user conflicts, low social priority and inadequate research and funding. In many cases, however, degradation of the environment and loss of aquatic habitat are the predominant concerns for the sustainability of inland fisheries. The need for concerted effort to prevent and reduce environmental degradation - as well as conservation of freshwater fish and fisheries as renewable common pool resources or entities in their own right - are the greatest challenges facing sustainable development of inland waters.

This presentation examines the shifting paradigm of fisheries management from rule-based regulation - through fishery enhancement towards the ecosystem approach to fisheries with reference to inland waters and how the emerging concept of ecosystem services should provide the thrust to promote sustainable fisheries in the face of multiple pressures on rivers. Stakeholder involvement institutional restructuring, integrated management plans, socio-economic evaluation and research into the human dimension, in addition to traditional biological and ecological sciences are considered key elements to be incorporated into the ecosystem approach for sustainable development of inland fisheries. If these inputs are integrated with traditional fisheries management practices, the prospects for sustainability in the inland fisheries will be enhanced.

12.30H: Open Discussion

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